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Italy

Citrus Annual

1999

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Report Highlights:

Italian citrus production for 1999 will return to almost average levels, following poor production in 1998. The Italian citrus exclusion zone has been removed, but little change in trade patterns is expected as imports from Morocco and Tunisia will continue to transit Spain, because of the strong trading relationships developed by the Spaniards. Imports of citrus in 1999 increased between 10 to 20% over the already higher import levels the previous year in line with a continued trend of increasing imports reflecting a growing demand for imported fruit, particularly when local supplies are low.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: Yes
Annual Report, IT9044

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Due to a staffing shortage, this report is abbreviated. A voluntary report providing further detail will be prepared in January of 2000.

Italian citrus production for 1999 is forecast to return to just below average levels, following a poor production year in 1998 due to unfavorable weather conditions. Production would have been higher this year except for unfavorably high temperatures in the early fall followed by dry conditions in November. In some areas, the situation was compounded by flooding in late November. As a result, the quality of the citrus crop will probably be lower than average, but is not expected to have suffered too seriously from the poor weather conditions,

For oranges, tangerines, and lemons, respectively, 1999 production is expected to reach 1.9 million metric tons, (up 15%), 520,000 mt (up 15%), and 590,000 mt, (up 2%).

In July, 1999, the Italian Ministry of Agriculture finally removed the phyto-sanitary exclusion zone that banned the import of all citrus products except for grapefruit. While welcome, this change is not expected to significantly alter imports of oranges and lemons into Italy. Although it will legitimize imports of these products from Morocco and Tunisia, which had been transhipped through Spain in the past, in the short term at least, trade contacts predict that the fruit will continue to transit Spain instead of being shipped directly because of the strong trading relationships that the Spaniards have developed.

Imports of citrus in 1999 increased between 10 to 20% over the already higher import levels the previous year due to the low production in 1998, but also in line with a continued trend of increasing imports reflecting growing consumer demand for imported fruit, particularly when local supplies are low. Exports for 1999 will rebound from the reduced levels of 1998 (due to the short crop), but remain lower than average, continuing their downward trend as Italian producers find it harder to compete with citrus from Spain and Morocco.

The Government of Italy is working with the producing regions to promote, both domestically and abroad, the unique image and characteristics of the blood orange, which makes up over 60% of domestic production. It is hoped that a market niche can be developed to stimulate market demand for this product over oranges imported from Spain.

SECTION II. PS&D TABLES

FRESH ORANGES (1,000 tons)

PSD Table						
Country:	Italy					
Commodity:	Oranges					
		1997		1998		1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		11/97		11/98		11/99
Area Planted	112000	112000	112000	113000	112000	113000
Area Harvested	108000	109000	109000	111000	109000	111000
Bearing Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Bearing Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL No. Of Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	2100	2100	2057	1422	1645	1900
Imports	28	44	55	85	100	100
TOTAL SUPPLY	2128	2144	2112	1507	1745	2000
Exports	98	106	116	80	100	110
Fresh Dom. Consumption	1430	1438	1196	966	1095	1290
Processing	600	600	800	461	550	600
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	2128	2144	2112	1507	1745	2000

FRESH GRAPEFRUIT (1,000 Tons)

PSD Table						
Country:	Italy					
Commodity:	Fresh Grapefruit					
		1997		1998		1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		1/97		1/98		1/99
Area Planted	250	150	150	150	150	150
Area Harvested	225	140	140	140	140	140
Bearing Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Bearing Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL No. Of Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	3	3	3	2	3	2
Imports	35	36	28	36	28	40
TOTAL SUPPLY	38	39	31	38	31	42
Exports	3	3	2	3	1	1
Fresh Dom. Consumption	35	36	29	33	30	39
Processing	0	0	0	2	0	2
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	38	39	31	38	31	42

FRESH LEMONS (1,000 Tons)

PSD Table						
Country:	Italy					
Commodity:	Fresh Lemons					
		1997		1998		1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/97		10/98		10/99
Area Planted	38000	36000	37000	36000	37000	36000
Area Harvested	37000	35000	37000	36000	37000	36000
Bearing Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Bearing Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL No. Of Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	714	714	612	506	580	590
Imports	16	36	29	45	35	50
TOTAL SUPPLY	730	750	641	551	615	640
Exports	31	43	16	16	16	20
Fresh Dom. Consumption	379	387	280	227	279	320
Processing	320	320	345	308	320	300
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	730	750	641	551	615	640

FRESH TANGERINES (1,000 Tons)

PSD Table						
Country:	Italy					
Commodity:	Fresh Tangerines					
		1997		1998		1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		11/97		11/98		11/99
Area Planted	33000	34000	33000	34000	33000	34000
Area Harvested	32000	0	32000	33000	32000	33000
Bearing Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Bearing Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL No. Of Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	500	500	533	443	450	520
Imports	43	44	60	66	65	70
TOTAL SUPPLY	543	544	593	509	515	590
Exports	68	68	50	28	45	45
Fresh Dom. Consumption	407	408	438	398	385	475
Processing	68	68	105	83	85	70
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	543	544	593	509	515	590

ORANGE JUICE (1,000 tons)

PSD Table						
Country:				single strength	Degrees Brix	
Commodity:						
		1997		1998		1999
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin						
Deliv. To Processors	600	600	800	461	550	600
Beginning Stocks	149	142	142	135	102	100
Production	220	220	220	170	200	210
Imports	28	28	25	30	25	20
TOTAL SUPPLY	397	390	387	335	327	330
Exports	100	100	130	80	130	100
Domestic Consumption	155	155	155	155	155	155
Ending Stocks	142	135	102	100	42	75
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	397	390	387	335	327	330

Market Year 1997 begins 1/98

Market Year 1998 begins 1/99

Market Year 1999 begins 1/00

TRADE MATRIXES

EXPORTS

FRESH ORANGES

Export Trade Matrix			
Country:		Units:	Tons
Commodity:			
Time period:			
Exports for	1997		1998
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
U.S.	162		87
Germany	48643		26999
Belgium-Lux	3484		1072
France	2727		2391
Sweden	3446		2796
Austria	16613		12907
U.K.			2099
Other EU	4017		15253
Switzerland	17266		15253
East Eur Others	13359		
Total for Others	109717		78857
Others not listed	6049		773
Grand Total	115766		79630

IMPORTS

FRESH ORANGES

Import Trade Matrix			
Country:		Units:	Tons
Commodity:			
Time period:			
Imports for	1997		1998
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Netherlands	1984		2764
France	3952		5509
Spain	48182		70929
Germany			2717
Greece			2609
Other EU	1320		171
Total for Others	55438		84699
Others not listed			268
Grand Total	55438		84967

EXPORTS

ORANGE JUICE

Export Trade Matrix		
Country:		Units:Tons
Commodity:	Juice, Orange	
Time period:	1997	1998
Exports for		
U.S.	3800	2200
Germany	28000	25000
Netherlands	13000	36000
Belgium-Lux	11000	16000
Other EU	10000	21000
Total for Others	27307	18000
Others not listed	16200	5642
Grand Total	100000	23642

IMPORTS

ORANGE JUICE

Import Trade Matrix		
Country:		Units: Tons
Commodity:	Orange Juice	
Time period:		
Imports for	1997	1998
U.S.	58	84
Germany	7606	8536
Netherlands	14435	14767
Austria	2373	5457
Other EU	2835	4477
Total for Others	27307	33317
Others not listed	584	1043
Grand Total	27811	34360